

REMARKS

This paper is response to the Office Action dated November 2, 2004, the period in which to respond has been extended until March 2, 2005. Accordingly, this Amendment is timely.

Claims in the Application.

Claims 1-34 were pending in this Application. Claims 1-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 1-34 have been canceled. Claims 35-55 have been added.

Rejection of Claims 1-7, 11-20, and 22-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 1-7, 11-20, and 22-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in light of *Sheth*, "Federated Database Systems for Managing Distributed, Heterogeneous, and Autonomous Databases," 1990, pp. 183-236 ("*Sheth*") in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,615,223 ("*Shih*"). The Applicants have reviewed these references in detail and provide the newly submitted claims, which provide for a decentralized configuration data within a decentralized system, and use synchronization of information as a procedure for achieving this. The present invention as claimed provides for managing a system that comprises at least one application master database and at least one application replica database. The Applicants submit that neither *Sheth* nor *Shih* disclose or teach these features. For these reasons, the Applicants believe that the newly submitted claims are not anticipated or rendered obvious by *Sheth*, *Shih*, or the combination of these references. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 8-10 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Claims 1-7, 11-20, and 22-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in light of *Sheth* in further view of *Shih* and U.S. Patent No. 6,362,411 ("*Dugan*"). Applicants believe that the cancellation of Claims 1-34 and the additional of newly submitted Claims 35-55 have mooted a discussion of this Rejection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

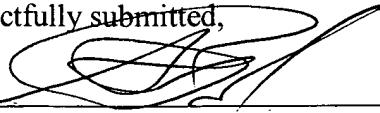
CONCLUSION

For the stated reasons and for the reasons previously stated, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Though Applicant does not believe that any fee is necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the Deposit Account No. 12-1322 of

Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP under Order No. 017341-00050. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (713) 226-1218 should he deem it necessary to advance the prosecution of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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